GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4080
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2017
Schemes Implemented by the Ministry
Chinnayan Shri S.Selvakumara;Chowdhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the norms adopted to cover districts under Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA), Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and other schemes of his Ministry, scheme-wise;
(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized under each scheme during the last two years and current year, State-wise;
(c) whether the Government proposes to view the schemes being implemented for gram panchayats in order to expedite the development programmes;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the steps being taken for proper utilisation of funds meant for gram panchayats?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)
(a) Under the erstwhile scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) and existing scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), financial assistance was provided to States/UTs on the basis of their annual plan as approved by the Central Executive Committee (CEC) of the Scheme. Ministry of Panchayati Raj implemented the District component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme in 272 identified backward districts of the country during the period 2006-07 to 2014-15. The backward districts under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) were selected on the basis of rank of backwardness on chosen parameters relating to income deprivation, health and education status, social backwardness and infrastructural inadequacy.
(b) The details of funds allocated to the States/UTs and utilized by them under Capacity Building − Panchayat Shaktikaran Abhiyan (CB-PSA)/RGSA since 2015-16 and during current year are given in Annexure. However, the BRGF Programme has been delinked from budgetary support of the Central Government w.e.f. financial year 2015-16.
(c) & (d) Under the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) award, funds have been provided directly to Gram Panchayats who have to utilize the same by formulating mandated Gram Panchayat Development Plans for providing certain basic services in their concerned areas. Ministry has advised States for formulating necessary guidelines for GPDP as per state specific requirements and formulating and implementing the GPDPs. Besides Ministry also provide assistance for enhancing the facilities for capacity building and training of PRIs and other stakeholders particularly aimed at formulation of GPDPs and their implementation.
(e) The states have been repeatedly requested for furnishing their audited report, statement of account and utilization certificate in respect of financial assistance provided to them for strengthening the Panchayats at all levels. Funds under the Programme were released to the State Governments. Utilisation of funds released under the BRGF Programme was monitored through Physical and Financial Progress reports, Utilisation Certificates (UCs), Audit Report etc. which the States were required to furnish periodically to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. All the States have been requested to submit the UCs for the funds already released under BRGF or refund the amount which is lying unutilized, if any.